

Office of the Attorney General
Request for Applications (RFA) for the
Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG) Program

The Crime Victim Services Division (CVSD) of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is soliciting applications for projects that provide victim-related services or assistance. The purpose of the OAG VCLG program is to fund the victim assistance coordinator and crime victim liaison positions for the purposes set forth in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 56.04.

Applicable Funding Source for VCLG:

The source of funding is through a biennial appropriation by the Texas Legislature. All funding is contingent upon an appropriation to the OAG by the Texas Legislature. The OAG makes no commitment that an Application, once submitted, or a grant, once funded, will receive subsequent funding.

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible Applicants: A local criminal prosecutor, defined as a district attorney, a criminal district attorney, a county attorney with felony responsibility, or a county attorney who prosecutes criminal cases, may apply for a grant to fund a victim assistance coordinator (VAC) position. A local law enforcement agency, defined as the police department of a municipality or the sheriff's department of any county, may apply for a grant to fund a crime victim liaison (CVL) position.

Eligibility: The OAG will initially screen each application for eligibility. Applications will be deemed ineligible if the application is submitted by an ineligible applicant; the application is not filed in the manner and form required by the Application Kit; the application is filed after the deadline established in the Application Kit; or the application does not meet other requirements as stated in the RFA and the Application Kit.

How to Obtain Application Kit: The OAG will post the Application Kit on the OAG's website at <http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/grants.shtml>. Updates and other helpful reminders about the application process will also be posted at this location. Potential applicants are encouraged to refer to the site regularly.

Deadlines and Filing Instructions for the Grant Application:

Registration Deadline: On-line registration is required to apply for a grant. The deadline to register will be stated in the Application Kit. If registration is not completed by the deadline, then an Application will not be accepted and is not eligible for funding. To register go to: <http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/grants.shtml>.

Application Deadline: The applicant must submit its application, including all required attachments to the OAG. The OAG must receive the submitted application and all required attachments by the deadline established in the Application Kit.

Filing Instructions: Strict compliance with the filing instructions, as provided in the Application Kit, is required.

The OAG will **not** consider an Application if it is not filed by the due date as stated in the Application Kit.

Minimum and Maximum Amounts of Funding Available: Minimum and maximum amounts of funding are subject to change as stated in the Application Kit. The minimum amount of funding for all programs is \$20,000 per fiscal year. The maximum amount for a local program is \$42,000 per fiscal year. The maximum amount for a statewide program is \$200,000 per fiscal year.

Start Date and Length of Grant Contract Period: The grant contract period (term) is up to two years from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2015, subject to and contingent on funding and/or approval by the OAG.

No Match Requirements: There are no match requirements.

Award Criteria: The OAG will make funding decisions that support the efficient and effective use of public funds. Scoring components will include, but are not limited to, information provided by the applicant on the proposed project activities and budget. Funding decisions will be determined using a competitive allocation method.

Grant Purpose Area: All grant projects must address one or more of the purpose areas as stated in the Application Kit.

Prohibitions on Use of Grant Funds: OAG grant funds may not be used to support or pay the costs of overtime, out-of-state travel, dues, or lobbying; any portion of the salary or any other compensation for an elected government official; the purchase of food and beverages except as allowed under Texas State Travel Guidelines; the purchase or lease of vehicles; the purchase of promotional items or recreational activities; costs of travel that are unrelated to the direct delivery of services that support the OAG grant-funded program; the costs for consultants or vendors who participate directly in writing a grant application; or for any unallowable costs set forth in applicable state or federal law, rules, regulations, guidelines, policies, procedures or cost principles. Grant funds may not be used to purchase any other products or services the OAG identifies as inappropriate or unallowable within this RFA or the Application Kit.

OAG Contact Person: If additional information is needed, contact Jennifer McShane Ferguson at Grants@texasattorneygeneral.gov or (512) 936-1278.